

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by [John T Polk II](#)
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

(#107) The Proverbs of Solomon 16:11- Governing the Government (#2)

Since God Created humans, only God can provide specific understanding of human behavior. God gave Solomon Divine Wisdom (**1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10**) to explain what and why behavior is as it is, and **Proverbs 10:1 - 24:34** are randomly written, as if they were Judgments Solomon made about individual cases brought to him for Divine Wisdom (**1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10**), or simply God-given explanations about life. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 16:11:

Honest weights and scales are the LORD'S; all the weights in the bag are His work.

God expects the principle of honesty to apply in business, especially when government has set the standard for measurements. "The bag" from which a weight would be placed on a scale should have diligently been measured with honesty, so that the transaction would be completely above board. Under Moses' Law, God commanded:

"You shall do no injustice in judgment, in measurement of length, weight, or volume. You shall have honest scales, honest weights, an honest *ephah*, and an honest *hin*: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe all My statutes and all My judgments, and perform them: I am the LORD." (**Leviticus 19:35-37**)

You shall not have in your bag differing weights, a heavy and a light. You shall not have in your house differing measures, a large and a small. You shall have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure, that your days may be lengthened in the land which the LORD your God is giving you. For all who do such things, all who behave unrighteously, are an abomination to the LORD your God. (**Deuteronomy 25:13-16**)

Honesty should be followed, whether in or out of the home. An entire society that honors God's Will could expect honest "weights and scales" as its standard. Customers should be able to pump gas, buy supplies, or wear clothes that are precisely measured by uniform standards. False labeling, deceptive packaging, short-weighted product, bait-and-switch tactics are some of the ways dishonesty is practiced.

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.



Studies in the Book of Proverbs by [John T Polk II](#)
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Other proverbs show God’s displeasure for dishonesty:

- Diverse weights *and* diverse measures, they *are* both alike, an abomination to the LORD. (**Proverbs 20:10**)
- Diverse weights *are* an abomination to the LORD, and dishonest scales *are* not good. (**Proverbs 20:23**)

The Law of Christ continues to apply this principle in such verses as:

Masters, give your bondservants what is just and fair, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven. (**Colossians 4:1**)

God’s principle of “honesty” will be followed and encouraged throughout every godly society.

~~~~~